



Meeting Minutes (Summary)

This is general summary of the Kennedy Street Revitalization Committee that was held Tuesday, October 29th. This is not an official verbatim transcript. This document is a record of the notes and recollections from the meeting.

- 1) Meeting began at approximately at 6:35 PM
- 2) Chairwoman Caldwell addressed room and passed out agenda/ sign-in sheet
- 3) Call to Order by Chairwoman Caldwell
 - a. Loretta Caldwell - Chairwoman
 - b. Derek Ford - WDCEP
 - c. Jacqueline Noisette - DCRA
 - d. Phillip McAuley - DMPED
 - e. Erkin Ozberk – DC Office of Planning
 - f. David Gottfried
 - g. Additional Guest
 - i. Renee Bowser – ANC 4D02
 - ii. Juan Garcia** – Business Owner
 - iii. Krystal Blanton – ANC 4D05
 - iv. Sheila Thompson** – Ward 4 Resident
 - v. Starsha Valentine—Executive Director of Uptown Main Street
- 4) Motion to set meetings in December 2019 and February 2020
- 5) Review Committee Minutes (Will have to send April/ October 2019 Meeting Minutes)
- 6) Chairwoman initiated Sub-Committee Chairs to provide updates

Committee Chairs Updates

- **Clean and Safe Subcommittee-** David Gottfried (Tasked with the cleanliness and safeness of the Kennedy Street Corridor)
 - Key Projects/ Wins
 - Money allocated during the budget cycle for Clean Team and expansion on services for Kennedy Street and neighboring streets
 - Mr. David Gottfried also stated that many sub-committee members are worried about the open-air drug market located on the 700th block of Kennedy Street NW. Any time of day/night around 15-20 individuals are outside the area smoking/ drinking/ and making certain transitions. Mr. Gottfried stated that the impact is being felt on the local businesses —Currently working extensively with MPD/ CM Brandon Todd to solutions to better address these respective issues. It has been an ongoing problem and needs a multi-pronged strategy.

John Falcicchio
Interim Deputy Mayor



- *Update from Starsha Valentine (Executive Director of Uptown Main Street)*
- *Starsha Valentine stated that the small businesses have been in contact regarding the issue and that two meetings have been held. The meetings consisted of the MPD Police Captain, Head of 311, and Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement. MPD does not make arrests for loitering/ consumption of marijuana so there does need to be a multi-pronged approach given some of the social services aspects of the overall issues. There needs to be alternatives since arrests are not the overall goal. DOES also went on site to provide job training/ resume workshops.*
- *Chairwoman Caldwell provided remarks about wanting solutions and opened the room for possible solutions.*
- *Renee Bowser provided remarks around the Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement and the services that they provide around the multi-pronged approach as it relates to crime in the area.*
- *David Gottfried: Recommendation to MPD and CM Brandon Todd that a police officer be stationed on 7th Street NW*

- **Economic Development** – Derek Ford (Tasked in business attraction of retail and business retention activities)
 - In collaboration with Office of Planning, the committee was able to obtain a map of the entire stretch of the Kennedy Street corridor to look at respective zoning of the area.
 - Derek Ford will be looking to determine the type of businesses and ownership in the area to ultimately development a plan for business attraction and to make any recommendations based upon zoning/ additional adjustments.
 - Derek Ford also discussed about outreach to national retailers, small business owners, and the need for mixed type of businesses.
 - Opportunity Zones is another focus area for the committee.
 - Derek Ford spoke about his role at the Washington DC Economic Partnership/ ICSC Conference and his experience working with large, national retailers on bringing these companies to the District. Density and daytime population is a major piece to the formula for large retailers.

- **Housing-** *In place of regular updates, representatives from the Office of Planning (Malaika Abernathy-Chief of Staff) to provide updates to the Comprehensive Plan. Malaika Abernathy provided both a high-level update of the plan and how it would impact Ward 4 specifically. **Documents/ handouts were provided in the meeting and can also be found online. ***

- **Collaboration/ Strategic Partnerships-** *No update: Charles Paret was not in attendance for this meeting, so Chairwoman Caldwell decided to table this item for the next meeting.*

- **Transportation/ Public Space** – Erkin Ozberk (Tasked with overall transportation and public space and how people are moving along the corridor)
 - Main items being worked on are collaboration efforts with the Main Street around their walkability initiatives and how to get more foot traffic flow in the area.
 - Committee had DDOT speak about their respective parking programs since there are no metered parking and a major streetscape project was just completed. Committee believes there should be discussion around how DDOT could adjust programs due to a change in



- community landscapes taking place in the District with more residents coming into the city.
- Playable Art Project- Working to get this visual/ experiential art near 5th and Kennedy. Commission on Arts and Humanities placed an RFP out for an artist that would create this work
 - Step 1: Potential artists presented their general approach/ goals to the commission
 - Step 2: The artists would then have to complete a concept that is reviewed by the Commission. The finalist would then be picked, and the ultimate project is to be completed by next year.

 - **Uptown Main Street Update** – Starsha Valentine, Executive Director
 - Provided objective of the organization in that they support local businesses along the 14th Street/ Kennedy Street Corridor through small grants, technical assistance, and events that promote businesses.
 - This fiscal year they are focusing on helping businesses become financially ready (financial fitness plan), promoting more to the local neighborhood, and get input on what the community would like to see on the corridor.

 - **Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development Update** – Phillip McAuley, Business Development Analyst
 - Great Streets Grant Updates- The latest round has recently closed and approximately 70 applications came across the system.
 - Next Steps: Application review process will begin and then announcement will be made hopefully made in December.
 - Additional grants that were provided this year are Makerspace Grant, Neighborhood Prosperity Fund, and more.

 - **Office of Planning: Comprehensive Plan Update** - Malaika Abernathy-Chief of Staff
 - Passed out documents on the Comprehensive Plan amendments process that can be found on website
 - Mayor Bowser’s goal to create 36,000 housing units in the District
 - Malaika provided high level overview of general background of the goal and reason for it
 - Housing goal is spread across the District and the goal is to create 12,000 affordable units.
 - The comprehensive plan must be updated since the last one was approved in 2006. It helps balance the competing priorities in the District by ensuring the positive change leads to housing equity/affordability.
 - The Comprehensive Plan is mandated by the Home Rule Act and requires the District to have a comprehensive plan. There are two various elements:
 - Federal Elements
 - District Elements- Office of Planning is over this portion and helps guide zoning and budget for capital improvement plans
 - The goal of the next 18 months is to discuss with the community on the Why? How? And Where? as it relates to housing goals.
 - Rock Creek East is specific to Ward 4- Kennedy Street Corridor
 - There are specific targets within Rock Creek East and the overall goal is approximately 1500 affordable units. The affordability



- How does the comprehensive plan work with the aging population and respective AMI?
 - AMI household income comes from the federal side.
 - Comprehensive Plan Update
 - Released housing portion on October 15th
 - Released remaining elements of Comprehensive on October 15th for public review
 - Residents can provide comments to ANCs who will then provide their recommendations
 - Erkin Ozberk provided additional information: Ward 4 Comprehensive Plan Community Meeting- November 19th at Roosevelt High School
 - Additional meetings across the District are also located on the document and website
- 7) Chairwoman Caldwell provided remarks on having more engagement on the subcommittees and to participate in those meetings as well.
- 8) Motion to Adjourn meeting was proposed by Chairwoman Caldwell. It was then seconded and approved by rest of body.
- 9) Meeting ended approximately at 8:07 PM.

